

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 12 and 13 of the specification with the following amended paragraphs:

Figure 3b is a representation of "branches" at the sites of variability off the tropane ring of cocaine of the cocaine conjugates and intermediates of the instant invention. ~~Figure 4 is a representation of "branches" at the sites of variability off the tropane ring in Figure 1b of four compounds useful in preparing the conjugates of the instant invention.~~

Please add the following new paragraph after the paragraph bridging pages 12 and 13 of the specification:

Figure 4 is a representation of "branches" at the sites of variability off the tropane ring in Figure 1b of four compounds useful in preparing the conjugates of the instant invention.

Please replace the two paragraphs at page 15, line 31 through page 16, line 6 with the following two amended paragraphs:

Figure 17b is a diagram representing sites of variability when preparing a nicotine conjugate of the instant invention. The sites of variability are arbitrarily assigned to easily designate the compound and conjugates of the instant invention and not necessarily reaction sites. These sites of variability are as referred to in Figures 18A and 18B ~~Figure 18~~.

Figures 18A and 18B show representations ~~Figure 18 is a representation~~ of "branches" at the sites of variability off the nicotine molecule for nicotine conjugates and intermediates of the instant invention.

Please replace the paragraph and heading at page 103, lines 16-29 with the following amended paragraph:

#### METHOD B

The succinylated nornicotine was then used to synthesize the nicotine conjugate PS-54 (Figure 18A) (~~FIG. 18~~). To a solution of succinylated nornicotine (5  $\mu$ mol) in DMF (0.1 ml), diisopropylethylamine (10 mmol) was added followed by HATU (5.5  $\mu$ mol). After 10 minutes, the pale yellow solution was added dropwise to a solution of either HEL or BSA (500  $\mu$ g) in 0.1 M sodium borate buffer at pH 8.8 (0.9 ml) and the mixture stirred for 18 hours at ambient temperature. The pH of the conjugate solution was adjusted to pH 7.0 by careful addition of 0.1 M aqueous hydrochloric acid, followed by purification by dialysis against PBS. The dialysate was filtered through a 0.2  $\mu$ m filter and the level of haptentation measured by mass spectral analysis or UV absorbance.